

## Hello Ocean Explorers!

A happy new year to all of the Ocean Exploration Cooperative Institute (OEI) partners, collaborators, and friends. After a much needed holiday break, the OEI is back in high gear planning Year 4 operations that will include new technological innovations, exploration of some of the most remote parts of the US EEZ, targeted engagement and training with underrepresented groups, and continued development of partnerships with commercial entities, federal agencies, and academic institutions.

We were fortunate to bring representatives from all of the OEI partners to Silver Spring in January to meet in-person with our NOAA Ocean Exploration sponsors and to formulate plans for Year 5 of the OEI. We had great discussions about priority areas for exploration, synergistic vehicle pairings, and bold ideas for the future of ocean exploration. I'm grateful to all the partners and sponsors for engaging in open and collaborative discussions to find where our scientific and engineering ambitions closely align with the mission of NOAA Ocean Exploration and other federal offices.

Stay tuned as the OEI embarks on a new season of exploration, develops plans for the future, and seeks a renewal of the cooperative institute to realize our shared goals.

Best,

Adam

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## Welcome Bridge to Ocean Exploration (B2OE) students!

Please join the OEI in welcoming its second cohort of B2OE students: Ashley Immani, Roberto Catoni, Jenna Bergin, Nathan Lannon, and Katrina Bradsher. These students are from the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) and are keen to connect their majors, academic goals, and personal interests to the collaborative work of the OEI. The students will be working on OEI-related projects in website development, water column data analysis, machine learning, and science communication. Please stay tuned for project updates and other activities through the B2OE program!



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**NOAA Science Seminar: OEI Multi-vehicle Operations- A UNH Perspective**



Please join Dr. Larry Mayer, Director of The Center for Coastal and Ocean Mapping (CCOM) at the University of New Hampshire (UNH) and OECI partner institution PI, on Thursday, **January 26, 2023, from 3-4pm EST**, as he presents a webinar on multi-vehicle operations.

UNH/CCOM has, for the past several years, explored the use of uncrewed surface vehicles to support ocean mapping and ocean exploration. These efforts have been a significant component of the OECI technology demonstrations that have recently taken place onboard the *E/V Nautilus*.

From a mapping perspective, the UNH team has demonstrated the potential of using a mothership and an uncrewed system to allow independent mapping activities and thus increased efficiency. From an ocean exploration perspective, they have demonstrated the potential of using an uncrewed surface vessel to track, direct, and provide a communication link and situational awareness, for multiple autonomous underwater vessels while leaving the mother ship to pursue independent activities. Their experience with these operations will be presented as well as the directions they hope to take in the future.

**Register to join (for remote access):**

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4964349304013845593>

## Announcements and Opportunities

### ***NCEI Job Announcement: Research Engineer II Or III***

This position will be located at the Mississippi State University Science and Technology Center at the Stennis Space Center, MS, to provide computer science support in the development of data management capabilities and visualization techniques for the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and its partners. An experienced computer scientist with extensive development experience and cloud-based programming is required to complete this work. Qualified candidates must have the skills to develop and test databases with front-end development teams documenting the process and creating operation manuals.

For more details, application directions, and a link to apply, please visit [this site](#).

Inner Space Center | Inner Space Center, University of Rhode Island, Graduate School of Oceanography,  
Narragansett, RI 02882

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